



# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/661,101	09/12/2003	Michael Mastropietro	1842.005US1	6568
70648	7590	07/27/2011		
SCHWEGMAN, LUNDBERG & WOESSNER/WMS GAMING P.O. BOX 2938 MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55402			EXAMINER WONG, JEFFREY KEITH	
			ART UNIT 3718	PAPER NUMBER
			NOTIFICATION DATE 07/27/2011	DELIVERY MODE ELECTRONIC

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

uspto@slwip.com  
request@slwip.com

<b>Notice of Allowability</b>	<b>Application No.</b>	<b>Applicant(s)</b>
	10/661,101	MASTROPIETRO ET AL.
	<b>Examiner</b>	Art Unit

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTO-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1.  This communication is responsive to 4/26/2011.

2.  The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-37.

3.  Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)  All b)  Some\* c)  None of the:

1.  Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.  Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.

3.  Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

4.  A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.

5.  CORRECTED DRAWINGS ( as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.

(a)  including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review ( PTO-948) attached 1)  hereto or 2)  to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.

(b)  including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.

**Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).**

6.  DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

1.  Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

5.  Notice of Informal Patent Application

2.  Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

6.  Interview Summary (PTO-413),  
Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.

3.  Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),  
Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.

7.  Examiner's Amendment/Comment

4.  Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit  
of Biological Material

8.  Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance

9.  Other \_\_\_\_\_.

/ARTHUR O. HALL/  
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3718

**EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT**

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Robert Hirning on 7/21/2011.

The application has been amended as follows:

Please replace Claim 1 with the following:

A method for evaluating a game outcome on a gaming machine, the method comprising:

receiving during a runtime of a wagering game a game rules script, the wagering game implemented using a processor of the gaming machine, and the game rules script comprising text specifying a set of displayable game elements used in the wagering game, the text further defining one or more rules to determine a set of one or more winning outcomes in terms of one or more of the set of displayable game elements;

parsing the game rules script into a game rules data structure;

generating a game outcome for display on the gaming machine, the game outcome including selected elements of the set of displayable game elements; and

determining if the game outcome matches at least one winning outcome in the set of winning outcomes in accordance with evaluation of the selected elements against

the one or more rules provided by the game rules data structure by repeating, until all rules are compared:

comparing the selected elements against the one or more rules provided by the game rules data structure; and

removing a matching rule from the one or more rules and removing matching elements from the selected elements responsive to matching of the matching elements and the matching rule.

Please replace Claim 9 with the following:

A method for evaluating a game outcome on a gaming machine, the method comprising:

receiving during a runtime of a wagering game a game rules script, the wagering game implemented using a processor of the gaming machine, and the game rules script comprising text specifying a set of displayable game elements for a wagering game, the text further defining one or more rules to determine a set of one or more winning outcomes in terms of one or more of the set of displayable game elements;

parsing the game rules script into a game rules data structure;

generating a game outcome for display on the gaming machine; and

determining if the game outcome matches at least one winning outcome in the set of winning outcomes in accordance with the game rules data structure; wherein each winning outcome in the set of winning outcomes comprises a set of match

rules, wherein the game outcome includes one or more displayable game elements from the set of displayable game elements, and wherein determining if the game outcome matches at least one winning outcome includes determining if each match rule in the set of match rules for a winning outcome matches at least one displayable game element;

wherein determining if each match rule in the set of match rules for a winning outcome matches at least one displayable game element includes the tasks of:

a. comparing a displayable game element with a match rule in the set of match rules;

b. if the displayable game element matches a match rule, then:

removing the displayable game element from the set of displayable game elements to form a reduced set of displayable gaming elements, removing the match rule from the set of match rules to form a reduced set of match rules, executing tasks a and b on the reduced set of displayable gaming elements and the reduced set of match rules; and

c. determining that each match rule has been matched when no rules remain in the reduced set of match rules.

#### ***Allowable Subject Matter***

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The prior art does not teach or suggest the limitation pertaining to a comparing a displayable game

element with a match rule in the set of match rules, if the displayable game element matches a match rule, then: removing the displayable game element from the plurality of displayable game elements to form a reduced set of displayable gaming elements, removing the match rule from the set of match rules to form a reduced set of match rules, executing tasks a and b on the reduced set of displayable gaming elements

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

***Conclusion***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to JEFFREY WONG whose telephone number is (571)270-3003. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 11:30am-8:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Peter Vo can be reached on (571) 272-4690. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Jeffrey K Wong/  
Examiner, Art Unit 3718

/ARTHUR O. HALL/  
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3718